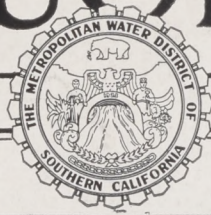


# • COLORADO RIVER • AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXVI

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1959

NUMBER 9

## Water Policy Statement Adopted By District Board

The Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, on October 2, adopted a Water Policy Statement embodying the District's views on California's water development program. At the same time, the Board voted to request Governor Edmund G. Brown to call a special session of the Legislature to consider necessary amendments to Senate Bill 1106, the \$1,750,000,000 water development bond issue bill passed by the Legislature at its last session.

Three basic objections to S. B. 1106 as previously expressed by the District Board are that (1) it does not assure adequate financing to complete construction of a statewide water project, (2) it does not assure a permanent water supply for Southern California, and (3) it would permit diversion of water bond funds to projects not specified in the bond issue.

Following is the full text of the District's Water Policy Statement: (The text of the letter to Governor Brown can be found elsewhere in this issue.)

Information now available to the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California indicates that full use of Colorado River water, within the boundaries of the District, may be anticipated in from ten to fifteen years. The ever increasing demands for water to provide for the needs of the rapidly growing population will require additional supplies from other sources, within the time limit imposed.

Adoption by the Legislature at its 1959 Session of Senate Bill 1106, which has been signed by the Governor, calls for a review of the statements made by the Board of Directors of the District.

1. The District, through its Board of Directors, in December 1952, stated:

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is prepared, with its existing governmental powers and its present and projected distribution facil-

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Construction work on the enlargement of Lake Mathews is shown under way in the photo above. The work, when completed, will increase the capacity of Lake Mathews from 107,000 acre-feet to 182,000 acre-feet. Work under way here is the placement of earth fill on Dike Number One. Existing embankments such as this will be raised a total of 33 feet to provide the additional storage capacity. This work is being performed by Winston Bros. Company and Green Construction Company, joint venturers.

## Governor Urged To Call Special Legislative Session

Governor Edmund G. Brown has been urged by the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors to call a special session of the Legislature to consider necessary amendments to Senate Bill 1106, the \$1,750,000,000 water development bond issue to be voted on by the people at the 1960 general election.

Following is the text of a letter to the Governor requesting the special session:  
Dear Governor Brown:

Since the adjournment of the Legislature last June the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has reviewed its policy statements dealing with the problems of insuring an adequate future water supply for the people it serves.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a water policy statement adopted today (October 2, 1959) by the District Board of Directors. This policy statement is, in effect, a summary of District policies of long standing, together with a statement of the District's position with regard to

(Continued on Page Two)

• COLORADO RIVER •  
**AQUEDUCT NEWS**  
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 West Third Street  
 Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

Vol. XXVI Sept.-Oct., 1959 No. 9

## Special Legislative Session

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provisions of S.B. 1106.

In giving consideration to legislation to advance the State's water plan, the Board of Directors of the District has strongly favored, and continues to favor, a Constitutional Amendment as the best means of protecting the rights of both the areas of origin and the areas of deficiency. The Legislature, thus far, has not adopted such a Constitutional Amendment. Therefore, the District's Board feels it is essential that S.B. 1106 be amended to provide a financing program that will assure completion of the State water facilities and to give practical assurance of permanent water supplies for areas north and south.

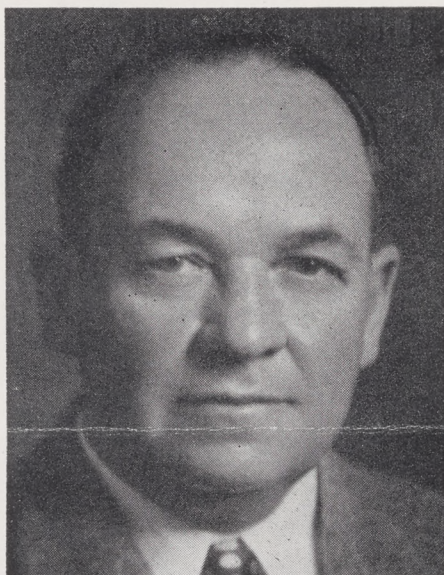
It is believed that the provisions of water purchase contracts with the State will be important factors in determining the support given the bond issue. Hence, it is desirable that the provisions of the contracts be clearly defined well in advance of the bond election.

You will note that in the District's policy statement recommendations are made which could only be effected by amending S.B. 1106 in several important particulars. It is respectfully requested that you call the Legislature into session early in 1960 and thus afford an opportunity for the consideration by the Legislature of amendments to S.B. 1106, which will assure the completion of a water delivery system to areas of deficiency which will be called upon to carry a large part of the financial burden and, at the same time, give the assurance of a permanent water supply for areas of origin and areas of deficiency.

Representatives of the District would deeply appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you the enclosed policy statement.

Very truly yours,  
 Board of Directors,  
 The Metropolitan Water District  
 of Southern California  
 By: Joseph Jensen, Chairman.

## District Board Mourns Death of Director Crawford



Samuel J. Crawford

Samuel J. Crawford, Chairman of the Legal and Claims Committee of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors, died September 15 of a heart attack. Mr. Crawford represented Santa Monica on the District Board. He was also a member of the Board's Water Problems Committee.

Mr. Crawford had been a resident of Santa Monica for 54 years and had practiced law in that community for 48 years. He had been actively engaged in water development for more than four decades. He was one of the leaders who carried forward the program that resulted in Santa Monica becoming one of the original 13 cities that made up the Metropolitan Water District and had been a member of the District Board since December 5, 1947.

Mr. Crawford was Chairman of the Board of the Santa Monica Bank and Vice-President of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Santa Monica. He was also a Director of the Long Beach Amusement Company, the Seaside Water Company in Long Beach and the Santa Monica Securities Company.

Funeral services were conducted in Saint Monica's Catholic Church in Santa Monica. Rosary was recited on September 16 and Requiem High Mass was held on September 17.

Mr. Crawford is survived by his wife, Charlotte; two daughters, Mary Dwyer, Santa Monica, and Jane Crawford, Long Beach; a son, Samuel J. Crawford, Jr., Santa Monica; and 13 grandchildren.

## For the

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed September, 1959, covering District operations for August, 1959).

**Colorado River**—The water surface of Lake Mead dropped 3.66 feet to elevation 1175.66 above sea level and usable storage decreased 479,000 acre-feet to 20,617,000, or 76% of controlled capacity, during August. Average rate of discharge at Hoover Dam was 14,600 cfs.

**Power and Pumping**—Hayfield plant delivered 66,774 acre-feet of Colorado River water for distribution. Pumping was on a throttled six-pump basis throughout the month. The District's share of Parker energy amounted to 28,292,390 kwhrs. Peak deliveries to and from Edison Company were 28,000 kw and 170,000 kw respectively.

**Water Deliveries**—Softened water sales for the month amounted to 33,324.7 acre-feet as compared with 24,598.6 a year ago, an increase of 35.43 percent. Unsoftened water sales for August amounted to 28,445.1 acre-feet as compared with 39,162.3 last year, a decrease of 27.36 percent. Total deliveries of Colorado River water in August amounted to 61,807.8 acre-feet as compared with 63,804.7 a year ago, a decrease of 3.13 percent.

Total deliveries for the fiscal year to date amounted to 123,757 acre-feet as compared with 116,247 for the same period last year, an increase of 6.46%.

**Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant**—Colorado River was softened from 301 to 206 parts per million of hardness at an average rate of 547 cfs. Daily rate of flow varied from a maximum of 605 cfs to a minimum of 444.

**Construction**—Two new contracts in the amount of \$113,250 were awarded in August for expansion program equipment. There are now a total of 176 formal contracts for expansion program work in the amount of \$160,413,000. Contract gross earnings for August approximate \$1,380,000 for a total to date of \$143,000,000.

The contract is 99% complete on the installation of Pumping Units, 7, 8 and 9. On the Colorado River Aqueduct west of San Jacinto Tunnel and Second San Diego Aqueduct (Pipe Lines and Siphons) the contract is 83% complete, and on the Canal and Box Siphons the contract is 82% complete. The Distribution System Pressure Control Structures contract is 22% complete; enlargement of Lake Mathews is 14% complete.

# RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed October, 1959, covering District operations for September, 1959).

**Colorado River**—The water surface of Lake Mead dropped 4.53 feet to elevation 1171.13 feet above sea level and usable storage decreased 581,000 acre-feet to 20,036,000 acre-feet or 74% of controlled capacity, during September. Average rate of discharge at Hoover Dam was 12,800 cfs.

**Power and Pumping**—Hayfield plant delivered 64,300.1 acre-feet of Colorado River for distribution, with pumping continuous on a 6-pump basis except for 1 hour 49 minutes for maintenance. The District's share of Parker energy amounted to 22,620,797 kwhrs. Peak deliveries to and from Edison Company were 20,000 kw and 150,000 kw.

**Water Deliveries** — Softened water sales for the month amounted to 23,683.3 acre-feet as compared with 22,144.9 a year ago, an increase of 6.95 percent. Unsoftened water sales amounted to 43,984.3 acre-feet as compared with 44,017.8 a year ago, a decrease of 0.15 percent. Total deliveries of Colorado River water in September amounted to 67,661.5 acre-feet as compared with 66,190.6 a year ago, up 2.22%.

Total deliveries for the fiscal year to date amounted to 191,418.6 acre-feet as compared with 182,437.9 a year ago, an increase of 4.92 percent.

**Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant**—Colorado River water was softened from 300 to 169 parts per million of hardness at an average rate of 400 cfs. Daily rate of flow varied from a maximum of 499 cfs; minimum, 333.

**Construction**—Two new contracts in the amount of \$637,658 were awarded in September for the expansion program, making a total of 178 formal contracts for expansion program work and equipment in the amount of \$161,300,000. Contract gross earnings for September approximate \$1,080,000 for a total to date of \$144,100,000.

The contract on installation of Pumping Units 7, 8 and 9 was completed and accepted on September 28, 1959. On the Colorado River Aqueduct west of San Jacinto Tunnel and Second San Diego Aqueduct (Pipe Lines and Siphons) the work is 89% complete, and on the Canal and Box Siphons the contract is 82% complete. The Distribution System Pressure Control Structure contract is 34% complete; enlargement of Lake Mathews is 17% complete.



Director Hugh W. Stiles, left, presents District General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer with a silver trophy in recognition of the District's new exhibit at the Los Angeles County Fair. Mr. Stiles is a Director of the Fair and has been associated with it since its beginning. The new exhibit features four streams of falling water, two dioramas of homes and industry receiving Colorado River water and two large relief maps of the District areas.

## Water Policy Statement

(Continued from Page One)

ities, to provide its service area with adequate supplies of water to meet expanding and increasing needs in the years ahead. The District now is providing its service area with a supplemental water supply from the Colorado River. When and as additional water resources are required to meet increasing needs for domestic, industrial and municipal water, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will be prepared to deliver such supplies.

Taxpayers and water users residing within The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California already have obligated themselves for the construction of an adequate supply and distribution system . . . This system has been designed and constructed in a manner that permits orderly and economic extensions and enlargements to deliver the District's full share of Colorado River water as well as water from other sources as required in the years ahead.

The Board of Directors at the same time also stated:

Establishment of overlapping and paralleling governmental authorities and water distribution facilities to service Southern California areas would place a wasteful and unnecessary financial burden upon all of the people of California, and particularly the residents of Southern California.

The Board of Directors reaffirms the above statements.

2. In line with this basic policy as expressed in 1952, the views of the Board of Directors respecting present proposals for developing the State's water resources, and particularly the provisions of S. B. 1106, are summarized as follows:

(a) Terms of the bond issue included in S. B. 1106, which will be voted upon by the people of the State in November 1960, should be given thorough engineering, legal and financial appraisal to determine their adequacy for providing sufficient funds to complete the State Water Facilities provided for in the Bill, including water transmission facilities for Northern and Southern California.

(b) The bond issue should be specific as to projects and their cost, and S. B. 1106 should be amended to meet these requirements.

(c) No facility or unit of the State Water Resources Development System should be constructed unless it is determined that the water users have the potential ability to pay, and will pay, for the operation, maintenance and bond servicing costs computed on the average life of the bonds. In evaluating feasibility weight should be given to any possible recreational benefits of Statewide importance and possible revenue therefrom.

(d) There should be created the "California Water Authority" consisting

(Continued on Page Four)

## Chairman Jensen Speaks Before U. S. Senate Committee

District Board Chairman Joseph Jensen, on October 16, appeared before the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Natural Resources meeting in Los Angeles to make a statement on behalf of the Metropolitan Water District.

Following are excerpts from Mr. Jensen's statement:

We deeply appreciate the large scale studies your committee is giving to the basic and vital subject of water for people throughout the United States. We are sure that your studies will reveal that there is no measurable increase in the average quantity of water being made available to the people of the United States by rainfall or snowfall. At the same time, the country's population is increasing at a tremendous rate. This means that there are each year more people needing water from developed or potential water sources that remain about the same in overall quantity. This brings us to realize, we respectfully submit, that water is a vital commodity that ought to be distributed in a manner that will do the most good for the greatest number of human beings . . .

In 1923 the City of Los Angeles launched the first engineering survey

for studies to determine the most economic and practical route for an aqueduct from the Colorado River to the Los Angeles area. At the same time, there was being debated in Congress the Boulder Canyon Project Bill to authorize the building of a multiple purpose dam across the Colorado River "at or near" Boulder Canyon. The Boulder Canyon Project Bill was adopted by Congress in the Fall of 1928, and the dam it authorized is now known as Hoover Dam. In the same year there was organized in Southern California The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The District now includes not only Los Angeles, but 84 other incorporated cities and large unincorporated areas extending into the five California counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego. After the District was organized in 1928, it took over in Los Angeles the engineering and administrative work on the Colorado River Aqueduct project.

The first problem in the planning of the aqueduct was the selection of a general route. Factors influencing such a selection were variable and their economic effects could be determined only by long and careful study. There was no general location so outstanding that it could at once be selected as best.

Field surveys and office studies to

determine the best route for an aqueduct from the Colorado River to the Coastal Plain of Southern California went forward from 1923 to 1931 . . .

Actual construction work on the aqueduct was set under way in December 1932 after court litigation had cleared the way for the selling of bonds and the financing of the aqueduct program. Construction work went forward three shifts a day, seven days a week.

The aqueduct was completed in its initial development in June 1941. It turned out that the actual construction cost was about 80% of the original overall estimate. In other words, out of the bond issue of \$220 million authorized by the voters in 1931 there had been invested in the initial aqueduct development up to June 1941 the amount of \$180,316,000 . . .

It has sometimes erroneously been indicated that the Federal government subsidized the construction of the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct system. That, of course, is completely contrary to the facts. Instead of subsidizing the Metropolitan Aqueduct system the Federal government actually derived a net profit of more than \$13,000,000 from its handling of aqueduct bonds. The cost of building and operating the Colorado River Aqueduct is being borne entirely by the people served and benefited in the Metropolitan Water District.

## Water Policy Statement

(Continued from Page Three)

of a seven member board to direct construction, operation and administration of the State Water Resources Development System. There should be three members from Northern California, three from Southern California and the Director of Water Resources as Chairman.

(e) The principles set forth in the amendments submitted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to the Assembly, and rejected, are still essential to S. B. 1106. The chief of these principles are:

(I) Subject to vested rights and specific reservations to counties of origin the title of the State to the water it will contract to deliver, should be firm so that the water cannot be recaptured at a future time and so that there will be reasonable assurance that the contractors who supply the funds will receive water.

(II) In order that contractors for this water can properly plan for and finance their facility, delivery contracts (except those of a temporary nature) should provide for permanent service, with the protection of the provision that the legislature, acting alone, cannot

modify the contracts at least for the life of the bonds.

(III) The provisions for financing the construction of the State Water Facilities should be amended and made adequate to assure the completion of those works in the event the proceeds of the bond issue prove to be insufficient.

(f) Water contract terms should explicitly state the works and facilities to be built and made available to conserve and transmit firm water supplies for contracting agencies.

(g) Water contract terms or water prices should be based on the proportional use of the State Water Facilities.

(h) Water contract terms should not require payments that produce revenue in excess of that required for operation, maintenance, necessary replacements and bond interest and redemption.

(i) In the event of water shortage all water from a project should be prorated, basing such proration upon present Water Code provisions relating to water use priorities.

(j) Construction schedules and expenditures should be so planned that, when water is available, and is needed, from the North, the facilities to carry and store it for distribution in Southern California shall also be ready. Bonds

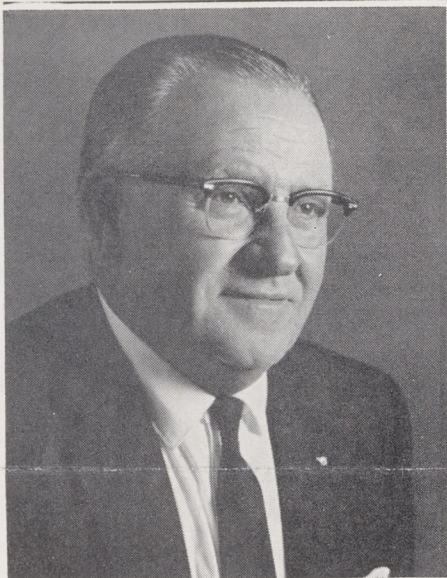
should be reserved for this purpose.

3. Because Southern California, under S. B. 1106, must clearly depend eventually on water supplies from beyond the Sacramento Valley, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California staff, aided by competent consultants, is studying the practicality of the projects that would be necessary to provide these supplies from North Coast streams, and the construction time required to meet the State's obligations on contracts made under S. B. 1106. Studies are also being made as to the effect of imported water on various areas in Southern California.

4. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California advocates the replenishment of the underground water basins as essential to the ultimate conservation and use of the waters of the State. There are within the boundaries of the District seriously depleted ground water basins. The District is cooperating in the replenishment of these basins, and will continue to do so.

5. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has contracted for a study and report on saline water conversion by nuclear energy to indicate the practicability or impracticability of this source for use by the Metropolitan Water District.

# NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



William F. (Mac) McCleary—25 Years of Service

William F. (Mac) McCleary became eligible for his 25-year service pin on September 15, 1959. He was first employed by the District on August 7, 1933, on exploratory work at the site of what is now Lake Mathews. Upon completion of this work he was employed for about a year by the contractor constructing Val Verde tunnel on the main aqueduct. Mac returned to the District in 1935 as Inspector on the construction of Lake Matthews dam, dike and other works on the distribution system.

In 1941 Mac was placed in charge of the operation and maintenance of Lake Mathews, the westerly end of the main aqueduct and the portion of the distribution system easterly of the La Verne softening plant. The San Diego Aqueduct and easterly portion of the lower feeder are now also under his general supervision. His crews also construct new service connections and do other miscellaneous construction work.

Mac has had an active part in the District's construction work both prior to and since beginning the current expansion program in 1952. In 1944 he supervised the construction of the Orange County feeder extension from Santa Ana to Corona del Mar. In 1946 he was on the grouting of the San Jacinto tunnel. Since 1952 he has done responsible work in connection with the construction of the lower feeder, Santiago lateral, main aqueduct siphons and other expansion program features. At present he is a Resident Engineer on the construction of the remaining aqueduct siphons and the Second San Diego Aqueduct.

Three young students have returned to their studies after working as temporary Utility Men at Gene Village during the summer months. Bob Owings is attending Arizona State College where he is a Sophomore; Stephen King has entered Los Angeles City College; and Donald Graham is completing his college preparatory work at Judson High School in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Mr. and Mrs. James Walter Dye welcomed their sixth child on September 2 at Parker, Arizona. The new arrival, a boy, weighed 8 pounds and has been named James Walter, Jr. James, Sr. is a Field Clerk at Gene Village.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Morrison became parents for the first time on September 18 when a baby boy weighing 8 pounds 10½ ounces arrived at the Hemet Valley Community Hospital. The young man has been christened Lanny Devin by his happy parents. Darrell is an Engineering Aide.

Larry and Joan Hibdon greeted their first child, a boy, at Hemet Community Hospital on October 10. The young man weighed 7 pounds 8 ounces and has been named Larry Lee. The father is a Utility Man on a survey crew.

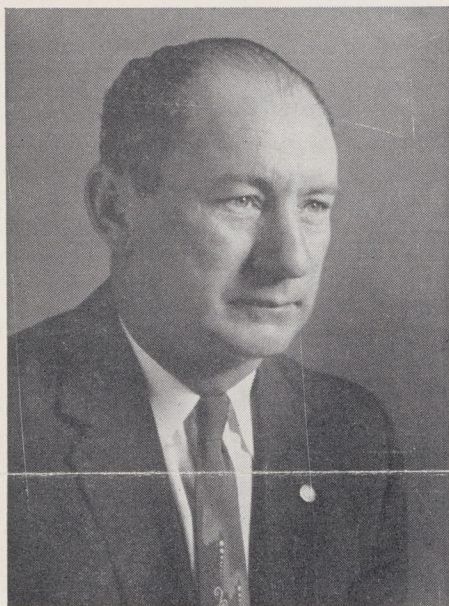


John Whaley, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whaley, was mighty proud of the huge catfish he landed recently near Intake Pumping Plant on Lake Havasu. The big fish weighed 14 pounds one ounce and was the largest caught in the area in a long time. John's Dad, Bob, is Superintendent of Pumping Plants on the Aqueduct System.



Jean Morgan, Secretary to Executive Secretary A. L. Gram, retired on September 30. On her last day at the office a large number of her friends gathered in the District Board of Directors room and presented her with a beautiful silver tray and a sum of money. Above, left to right, are A. L. Gram, Jean, Board Chairman Joseph Jensen and General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer. All of the men complimented Jean on her years of faithful and efficient service.

# NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Walter Murphy

Walter Murphy, Station Chief at Intake Pumping Plant, died as the result of an accident on September 12. Walter had served the District for more than 25 years and his untimely death is mourned by his many friends, both in and out of the District.

He joined the District at Yellow Canyon Camp on January 31, 1934, to work on the construction of the Coachella tunnels, transferring to Gene and Intake Pumping Plants in December, 1937, during the construction of these pumping plants. He became an Operator on the pumping system in 1939 and advanced through the years to System Operator, Station Electrician, Assistant Station Chief at Intake, the position he held at the time of his death. He was a member of Lodge Number 1929, BPOE, in Parker, Arizona.

He is survived by his wife, Cecil; a daughter, Mrs. Keith Walker of Riverside; two sons, Lyle Jay and Jerry Ray of Gene and Intake; his mother, Mrs. A. C. Murphy of Fullerton; four sisters, a brother and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, September 16, at the Hilgenfeld Mortuary Chapel in Anaheim. Interment was at the Loma Vista Memorial Park in Fullerton. Pallbearers were Robert E. Whaley, E. A. Russell, Walter Roys, Calvin Twiggs, Dan Zans and Charlie Jones.

\* \* \*

The District's annual Community Chest Drive will get under way on October 20 and all District employees are urged to join in the drive and "GIVE TILL IT HELPS".

Maintenance Helper Wayne Crawford and his wife, Nancy, are the proud parents of a baby boy born on September 10 at Needles Community Hospital. The infant weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and has been christened Bradley Dean. Nancy was honored at a stork shower in the Gene Village Recreation Hall on August 26. The shower was well attended by a large number of District ladies and Nancy received many nice gifts. Hostesses were Rena Smith, Libbey Clarey, Thelma Gabele, Thelma Heine, Nilda Yaklowich, Charlotte Naffziger and Mrs. G. V. Smith.

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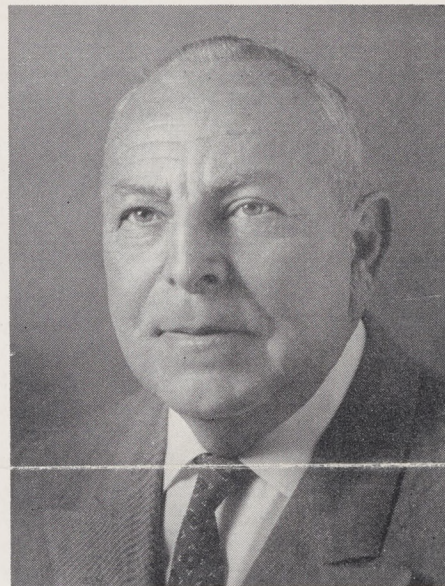
Jack and Betty Carroll are the parents of a baby boy born September 25 at the Parkview Memorial Hospital in Arlington. The baby weighed 7 pounds 15½ ounces and has been named Dewey Lane. Jack is a Utility Man at Lake Mathews.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Broe announced the arrival of a baby boy born September 22 at the Hemet Valley Community Hospital. The Broes' third child weighed 9 pounds 6 ounces and has been named Ronald Eugene. Don is a Junior Inspector.



Orville Carter, who retired as Caretaker of the District's citrus and walnut groves located near the Softening Plant on October 1. He first started to work for the District on March 4, 1945 and his duties included cultivation, irrigation, fertilization and pruning the trees. On September 25 the employees of Group III of the Employees Association held a party for Orville and his wife, Peggy, at the Softening Plant. He was presented with a Bulova watch and Peggy received a lovely corsage.



John L. Powell

John L. Powell, former Mechanical Foreman at the Softening Plant, died September 21 following a series of cerebral hemorrhages. John had completed more than 25 years of service with the District prior to his retirement on September 22, 1958, and his passing has saddened his many friends.

He first came to work for the District on the installation of the District's construction water system on March 15, 1933. Upon completion of the system, John continued on the operation and maintenance of these works during the main aqueduct construction period. He later worked as a Patrolman on the operation of the main aqueduct until 1940 when he transferred to the Softening Plant as a Maintenance Mechanic. He became a Mechanical Foreman in 1952.

At the time of his retirement he was supervising much of the maintenance and repair work on the mechanical equipment and appurtenant works at the Softening Plant.

John is survived by his wife, Laur-etta; a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Keagy of Pomona; a brother, four sisters and two grandchildren.

Rosary was recited at the Gippie R. Blackman Chapel in Pomona on September 22 and Requiem Mass was celebrated on September 23 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Pomona.

\* \* \*

Pat Thomas, Zeolite Operator at the Softening Plant, and his wife, Barbara, welcomed Steven Patrick to the family on September 8. Steven weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces upon arrival.